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November 24, 2008

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Written Ex Parte Presentation in IB Docket No. 95-91 and WT Docket No. 07-293.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Satellite radio is extremely popular with automobile buyers. Currently, a large percentage of our new vehicles already ship with a satellite radio installed, and that percentage will increase in the coming years. Our customers enjoy the variety of programming as well as the high-quality audio that satellite radio offers.

The FCC's proceeding to modify the technical specifications for the 2.3 GHz Wireless Communications Service ("WCS") is critical to us and other automakers. Operating on frequencies immediately adjacent to millions of satellite radios, WCS devices are a serious potential source of interference to in-vehicle reception. The proposed rule significantly elevates this risk by facilitating mobile WCS devices – a use that was specifically discouraged due to interference concerns when WCS licenses were auctioned by the FCC.

We urge the FCC to be cautious and ensure that satellite radio is not degraded by changing the established rules for WCS operations. Sirius XM Radio has spent billions of dollars developing networks that are based on the understanding that mobile WCS devices would not interfere. Automakers have installed tens of millions of satellite radios in their vehicles with that same understanding. Unlike cell phones, automobiles are not discarded every year or two – these satellite radios will remain operational and in circulation for years to come.

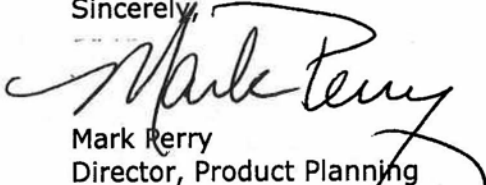
Any loosening of the WCS rules must not cause interference to satellite radio consumers. This is, of course, one of the FCC's primary statutory obligations, and we expect that the Commission will execute its role with appropriate technical diligence. Satellite radio is unique among FCC-regulated entities and requires different levels of protection from that provided to cell phones. We ask that the Commission keep in mind the following facts:

- Satellite radio represents an extremely dense concentration of customers in a narrow frequency band (nearly 40 million listeners in 25 MHz, listening over 20 hours per weeks on average), thus amplifying the impact of any interference or signal degradation.
- Unlike cell phone service where momentary blips or degradation are easily overcome, satellite radio provides high-quality audio and music where drop-outs and interruptions are neither expected nor tolerated by subscribers, in large part because competing audio services typically provide error-free service.
- Satellite radio originates from space-based platforms that provide a relatively low-powered signal to receivers tens of thousands of miles away (thus necessitating receivers more susceptible to impairment from out-of-band emissions). The satellite signal strength can not be augmented or increased by terrestrial means in most areas of the country.
- Unlike mobile handheld devices, most satellite radio antennas are located on top of vehicles and are typically unshielded (thus providing less protection from sources of interference).
- Unlike cell phones, satellite radios do not use spread spectrum technologies which inherently reduce the impact of interference data packets (thus presenting a signal overload threshold lower than the typical cell phones).

Taking into account these differences – and others – distinguishing satellite radio from the FCC's recent analysis on the interference potential between Advanced Wireless Service ("AWS") devices, the result in the AWS proceeding does not support the Part 27 rule changes proposed by the WCS Coalition.

Again, we urge you to consider these facts before you decide these proceedings and ensure that the actions you take fully protect the millions of consumers who rely on satellite radio.

Sincerely,



Mark Perry
Director, Product Planning

cc: The Honorable Kevin J. Martin
The Honorable Michael J. Copps
The Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein
The Honorable Deborah Taylor Tate
The Honorable Robert M. McDowell
Mr. Julius Knapp
Mr. Jim Schlichtin